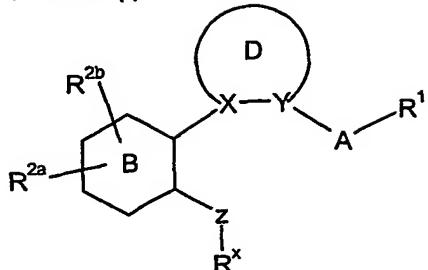


## CLAIMS

## 1. A compound of formula (I):



(I)

5 wherein:

A represents an optionally substituted aryl, or an optionally substituted 5- or 6- membered heterocyclyl ring, or an optionally substituted bicyclic heterocyclyl group;

B represents a phenyl or pyridyl ring;

10 D represents an optionally substituted 5- or 6-membered heterocyclyl ring containing one or two heteroatoms selected from N, S and O, wherein X and Y are each independently selected from N and C;

Z represents O, S, SO, or SO<sub>2</sub>;

15 R<sup>1</sup> represents CO<sub>2</sub>H, CN, CONR<sup>5</sup>R<sup>6</sup>, CH<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>2</sub>H, optionally substituted alkyl, optionally substituted alkenyl, optionally substituted SO<sub>2</sub>alkyl, SO<sub>2</sub>NR<sup>5</sup>R<sup>6</sup>, NR<sup>5</sup>CONR<sup>5</sup>R<sup>6</sup>, COalkyl, 2H-tetrazol-5-yl-methyl, optionally substituted bicyclic heterocycle or optionally substituted heterocyclyl;

20 R<sup>2a</sup> and R<sup>2b</sup> each independently represents hydrogen, halo, optionally substituted alkyl, optionally substituted alkoxy, CN, SO<sub>2</sub>alkyl, SR<sup>5</sup>, NO<sub>2</sub>, optionally substituted aryl, CONR<sup>5</sup>R<sup>6</sup> or optionally substituted heteroaryl;

25 R<sup>x</sup> represents optionally substituted alkyl wherein 1 or 2 of the non-terminal carbon atoms are optionally substituted by a group independently selected from NR<sup>4</sup>, O and SO<sub>n</sub>, wherein n is 0, 1 or 2; optionally substituted alkenyl; or optionally substituted alkynyl; or R<sup>x</sup> represents optionally substituted CQ<sup>a</sup>Q<sup>b</sup>-heterocyclyl, optionally substituted CQ<sup>a</sup>Q<sup>b</sup>-bicyclic heterocyclyl or optionally substituted CQ<sup>a</sup>Q<sup>b</sup>-aryl;

30 R<sup>4</sup> represents hydrogen or an optionally substituted alkyl;

R<sup>5</sup> represents hydrogen or an optionally substituted alkyl;

R<sup>6</sup> represents hydrogen or optionally substituted alkyl, optionally substituted heteroaryl, optionally substituted SO<sub>2</sub>aryl, optionally substituted SO<sub>2</sub>alkyl, optionally substituted SO<sub>2</sub>heteroaryl, CN, optionally substituted CQ<sup>a</sup>Q<sup>b</sup>aryl, optionally substituted

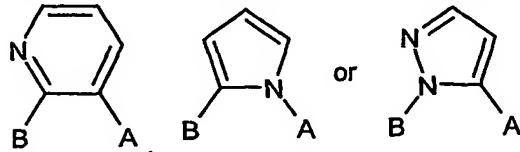
35 CQ<sup>a</sup>Q<sup>b</sup>heteroaryl or COR<sup>7</sup>;

R<sup>7</sup> represents hydrogen, optionally substituted alkyl, optionally substituted heteroaryl or optionally substituted aryl;

Q<sup>a</sup> and Q<sup>b</sup> are each independently selected from hydrogen and CH<sub>3</sub>;

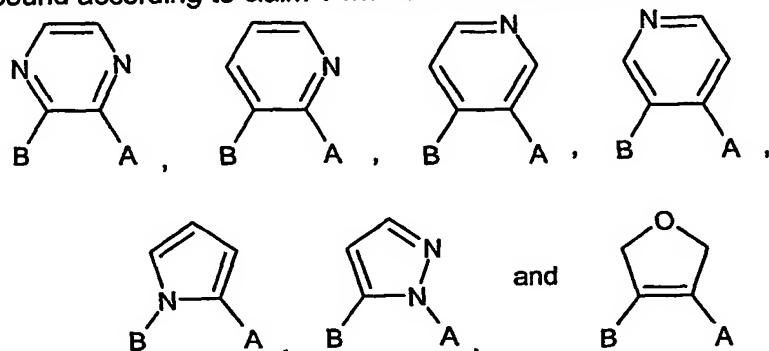
wherein when A is a 6-membered ring the R<sup>1</sup> substituent and the D ring are attached to carbon atoms 1,2-, 1,3- or 1,4- relative to each other, and when A is a five-membered ring

or bicyclic heterocycl group the  $R^1$  substituent and the D ring are attached to substitutable carbon atoms 1,2- or 1,3- relative to each other;  
and derivatives thereof;  
provided that D is not imidazolyl, thienyl,



wherein A and B are as hereinbefore defined.

2. A compound according to claim 1 wherein D is selected from



all of which may be optionally substituted.

10

3. A compound according to claim 1 or claim 2 wherein A in is selected from pyridyl or optionally substituted phenyl.

4. A compound according to any one of claims 1 to 3 wherein  $R^1$  is  $CO_2H$ .

15

5. A compound selected from:

- 3-[1-[2-(benzyloxy)-phenyl]-5-methyl-1H-pyrrol-2-yl]-benzoic acid;
- 3-[1-[2-(benzyloxy)-5-chloro-phenyl]-5-methyl-1H-pyrrol-2-yl]-benzoic acid;
- 20 3-[1-[2-(benzyloxy)-5-bromo-phenyl]-5-methyl-1H-pyrrol-2-yl]-benzoic acid;
- 3-[5-[2-(benzyloxy)-phenyl]-1H-pyrazol-1-yl]-benzoic acid;
- 3-[5-[2-(benzyloxy)-5-chloro-phenyl]-1H-pyrazol-1-yl]-benzoic acid;
- 3-[3-[2-(benzyloxy)-5-chloro-phenyl]-pyrazin-2-yl]-benzoic acid;
- 3-[4-[2-(benzyloxy)-5-chloro-phenyl]-2-oxo-2,5-dihydro-furan-3-yl]-benzoic acid;
- 25 3-[3-[2-(benzyloxy)-5-chloro-phenyl]-2-oxo-2,5-dihydro-furan-4-yl]-benzoic acid;
- 3-[3-[2-(benzyloxy)-5-chloro-phenyl]-pyridin-4-yl]-benzoic acid;
- 3-[3-[2-(benzyloxy)-phenyl]-pyridin-4-yl]-benzoic acid;
- 3-[4-[2-(benzyloxy)-5-chloro-phenyl]-pyridin-3-yl]-benzoic acid;
- 3-[3-[2-(benzyloxy)-5-chloro-phenyl]-pyridin-2-yl]-benzoic acid;
- 30 3-[3-[2-(benzyloxy)-5-(trifluoromethyl)-phenyl]-pyridin-4-yl]-5-(acetylamino)-benzoic acid;

3-[2-(4-fluoro-benzyl)oxy]-5-(trifluoromethyl)-phenyl]-pyridin-4-yl]-5-(acetylamino)-benzoic acid;

3-[3-[2-(2,4-difluoro-benzyl)oxy]-5-(trifluoromethyl)-phenyl]-pyridin-4-yl]-5-(acetylamino)-benzoic acid;

5 3-[3-[2-(benzyl)oxy]-phenyl]-pyridin-4-yl]-5-(acetylamino)-benzoic acid; and  
6-[1-[2-(benzyl)oxy]-5-chloro-phenyl]-5-methyl-1H-pyrrol-2-yl]-2-pyridinecarboxylic acid;  
and derivatives thereof.

6. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound according to any one of  
10 claims 1 to 5 or a pharmaceutically acceptable derivative thereof together with a  
pharmaceutical carrier and/or excipient.

7. A compound according to any one of claims 1 to 5 or a pharmaceutically  
acceptable derivative thereof for use as an active therapeutic substance.

15 8. A compound according to any one of claims 1 to 5 or a pharmaceutically  
acceptable derivative thereof for use in the treatment of a condition which is mediated by  
the action of PGE<sub>2</sub> at EP<sub>1</sub> receptors.

20 9. A method of treating a human or animal subject suffering from a condition which is  
mediated by the action of PGE<sub>2</sub> at EP<sub>1</sub> receptors which comprises administering to said  
subject an effective amount of a compound according to any one of claims 1 to 5 or a  
pharmaceutically acceptable derivative thereof.

25 10. A method of treating a human or animal subject suffering from a pain,  
inflammatory, immunological, bone, neurodegenerative or renal disorder, which method  
comprises administering to said subject an effective amount of a compound according to  
any one of claims 1 to 5 or a pharmaceutically acceptable derivative thereof.

30 11. A method of treating a human or animal subject suffering from inflammatory pain,  
neuropathic pain or visceral pain which method comprises administering to said subject an  
effective amount of a compound according to any one of claims 1 to 5 or a  
pharmaceutically acceptable derivative thereof.

35 12. Use of a compound according to any one of claims 1 to 5 or a pharmaceutically  
acceptable derivative thereof for the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment of a  
condition which is mediated by the action of PGE<sub>2</sub> at EP<sub>1</sub> receptors.

40 13. Use of a compound according to any one of claims 1 to 5 or a pharmaceutically  
acceptable derivative thereof for the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment or  
prevention of a condition such as a pain, inflammatory, immunological, bone,  
neurodegenerative or renal disorder.

14. Use of a compound according to any one of claims 1 to 5 or a pharmaceutically acceptable derivative thereof for the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment or prevention of a condition such as inflammatory pain, neuropathic pain or visceral pain.